GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1863
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2002
PURCHASING OF POWER FROM BHUTAN .
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhutan is keen on Indian participation in two major hydroelectric power projects with a potential of generating 1,000 MW;

(b) whether Bhutan`s largest hydroelectric power plant, the 360 MW Chhukha projecton the Wangchu river was built by India on a turnkey basis at a cost of Rs.2.47 billion;

(c) if so, whether the Government are funding the existing projects in Bhutan;

(d) if so, whether Bhutan is selling its surplus power to India;

(e) if so, whether any agreement have been reached between the two countries regarding India`s funding to Bhutan and India`s power purchase from Bhutan;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the extent to which power purchase from Bhutan is helpful to India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER(SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (g) : Chukha hydro electric Project (4x84 = 336 MW) in Bhutan was set up in1986-88 with technical and financial assistance of the Government of India at a cost ofRs.246 crores. Tala hydro electric Project 96x170 = 1020 MW) and Kurichu hydroelectric Project (4x15=60 MW) are presently under execution in Bhutan with Indianassistance. Three units of 15 MW each of Kurichu hydro electric Project have sine been commissioned. The surplus power from the commissioned hydro projects is being supplied to India at mutually agreed rates in the Eastern Region to meet its peaking demand.